

## Partnering State Agencies

The **Missouri Department of Corrections** promotes public safety by the supervision and confinement of offenders. Our mission to reduce crime and incarceration costs to taxpayers is enhanced through partnerships with other state agencies.

The **Missouri Department of Economic Development (Division of Workforce Development--DWD)** is committed to working with other agencies and our partners across the state to help offenders successfully complete the transition from prison to community, so they can move toward self-sufficiency and productive lives. DWD will provide case management services to eligible participants, as well as other services related to employment preparation. DWD will also market the offender to potential employers.

The **Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services** works to promote healthier communities. Through this partnership the department will facilitate linking offenders, who are returning home, with health resources available in their communities.

The **Missouri Department of Mental Health** is heavily invested in this project. With over 60% of alcohol and drug abuse referrals from the criminal justice system and the number of offenders who suffer from other mental disabilities, it is imperative that we work with our partners to address these significant issues.

The **Missouri Department of Social Services** believes that this partnership assists families of offenders by promoting connections during the incarceration period, which will continue upon release. Offenders who develop a support system prior to release through access to services and family will be afforded a greater chance for successful transition to the community.

The **Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation-DVR) is a program to assist persons with physical or mental impairments to become employed. MDVR's mission is to provide the highest quality of employment-oriented services to Missourians with disabilities.

The **Missouri Department of Revenue** is implementing a program to assist offenders in obtaining a non-drivers license identification card, which will allow a smoother transition into the community. This will provide an offender the immediate possibility of proving their identity for important transitional steps such as employment, education, and financial services.

For the past several years the **Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator**, with the assistance of the judiciary, has utilized drug and family courts to hold offenders accountable and better able to refrain from further criminal behavior. Offenders who are successful upon reentry from prison will contribute to the public's safety and avoid return to the court system.

## Missouri's Plan to Prepare Offenders for Successful Transition from Prison to Community

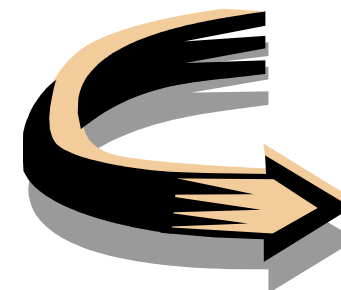
The Transition Accountability Plan, also called the TAP, is the backbone to transitioning offenders from prison to the community.

The TAP is an individualized case plan for offenders that spans all three phases of the transition process. The development of this plan requires involvement of many stakeholders such as the following:

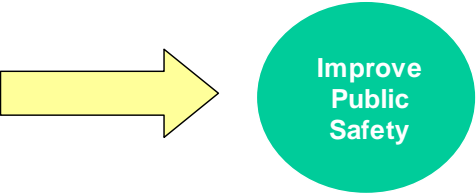
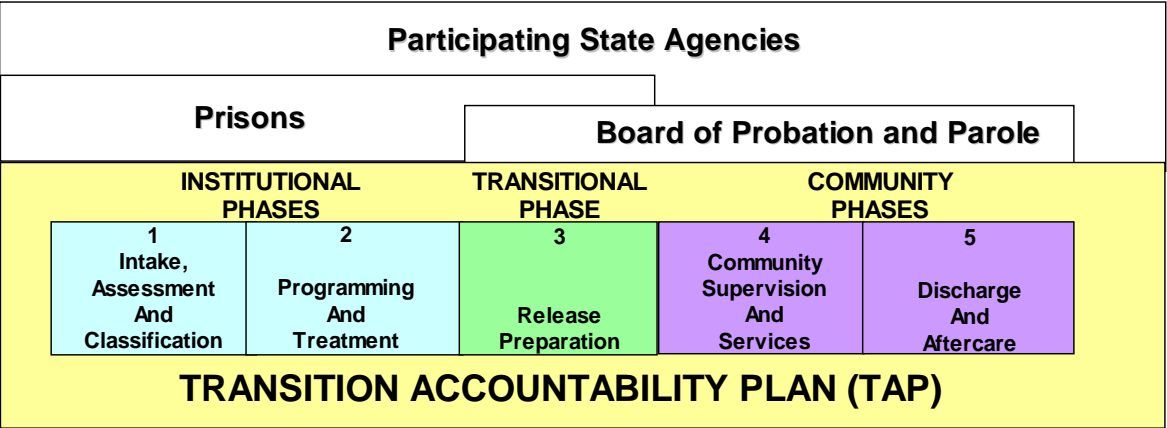
- The offender
- Partnering agencies such as:
  - Department of Corrections (DOC)
  - Department of Economic Development
  - Department of Health & Senior Services
  - Department of Mental Health
  - Department of Social Services
  - Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
  - Department of Revenue
  - Office of State Court Administrators
  - Human service providers
- Victims
- Offender families
- Community organizations
- Law Enforcement

The TAP will define terms and conditions of an offender's release, specify supervision services and describe community services for the offender and family following the offender's release from prison.

The TAP starts upon the offender's admission to prison, continues throughout incarceration, through field supervision, and culminates with aftercare services.



97% of all  
Missouri offenders  
return back to their  
community.



INSTITUTIONAL PHASES

TRANSITION PHASE

COMMUNITY PHASES

Intake, Assessment & Classification (Phase 1)

All offenders sent to a penitentiary start at a Reception & Diagnostic Intake Center.

Offenders are assessed for medical/dental conditions, mental health issues, educational/vocational achievement, intellectual functioning, special needs and assessment of factors related to risk to themselves or others.

They are also classified based on security risks, including length of sentence, seriousness of offense, prior criminal history and protective custody needs.

Once this portion of the Institutional Phase is complete, a report is prepared summarizing the significant findings, and offenders are placed in a prison where their needs can best be met.

Programming & Treatment (Phase 2)

While in prison, offenders are provided a variety of services in order to address the broad range of programming and treatment needs identified during assessment.

Treatment services can include: medical, mental health, substance abuse, sex offender treatment, education and vocational training.

Programming services include such activities as job assignment and participation in rehabilitation related programs.

In this phase, the offender’s needs are continually reviewed to determine that the appropriate services are delivered in a timely manner.

Release Preparation (Phase 3)

The Transition Phase begins approximately six months prior to an offender’s release from prison. During this phase, an offender will move into transition status for the purpose of preparing the offender for release.

At this time, a case management team consisting of DOC staff, the offender, and other community organizations/state agencies will be formed and the TAP is developed for the offender.

Areas that will be addressed with the offender during the transition phase include the following:

- Education/vocation
- Mental health/substance abuse
- Employment
- Housing
- Family issues
- Community resources availability
- Spiritual services
- Probation and Parole orientation
- Transportation
- Medical
- Obtainment of personal identification

Upon completion of this phase, the offender is released from prison to the supervision of Probation and Parole (Community Phase).

Community Supervision & Services (Phase 4)

Community supervision by Probation & Parole will be structured for offenders around their TAP.

Probation & Parole conducts an on-going assessment of the offender to determine the appropriate level of supervision, intervention and treatment services.

The TAP will be the foundation for monitoring each offender’s progress in the community, for intervention when needed, for advocacy on behalf of those affected by the TAP, and for referral to service providers as needed.

Discharge & Aftercare (Phase 5)

When offenders successfully complete supervision or their sentence expires, they are discharged from supervision by the Board of Probation & Parole and are no longer under the control of the Department of Corrections. However, the offender’s TAP ensures that the offender can receive on-going aftercare services.

The offender’s TAP contains the framework and information needed to help state agencies and human service providers, provide the needed aftercare services.

These services will help to ensure the offender is provided the best chance to succeed and become a productive member of society.